

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. ____

Introduced by: Stilwell

A RESOLUTION urging the Legislative Council to assign to the Criminal Law Study Committee the review of Indiana's repeat offender laws regarding probation and to urge that committee to make recommendations for revisions to the criminal code that would assist in keeping multiple repeat offenders from preying upon our communities and citizens.

Whereas, In light of the murder of Stacy Payne on July 11, 2001, in Dale, Indiana, a need to review Indiana's probation and repeat offender laws has arisen;

Whereas, Stacy Payne was a 15 year old Spencer County honor student, cheerleader, and exceptional young lady from a rural home environment who was tragically murdered in her own home because our system of probation for repeat offenders failed;



Whereas, In response to this horrible tragedy, Melissa Payne, Stacy's 14 year old sister, has gathered the strength and determination to ensure that the laws that failed her sister are held up to examination and revision;

Whereas, Certain repeat violations could result in a pattern of behavior for violent crime that could adversely affect Hoosiers and their communities;

Whereas, According to the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, a tragedy could occur through repeatedly giving criminals probation or suspended sentences after multiple convictions; and

Whereas, Family members of Stacy Payne and professional law enforcement officials who are working closely on the Stacy Payne murder case, including the Spencer County prosecuting attorney, should be afforded the opportunity to testify and be invited to take an active role in providing information to the Criminal Law Study Committee: Therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives urges the
- 2 Legislative Council to assign to the Criminal Law Study Committee the
- 3 review of repeat offender laws regarding probation in Indiana and urges
- 4 that committee to make recommendations for revisions to the criminal
- 5 code that would assist in keeping multiple repeat offenders from
- 6 preying upon our communities and citizens.
- 7 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
- 8 Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to the Criminal Law
- 9 Study Committee members, other 2002 legislative committees that
- 10 address these issues, the Spencer County prosecuting attorney, and
- 11 Melissa Payne.

